

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NOUAKC 02149 211643Z

15

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAM-01 ACDA-10 /106 W

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R 211431Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4551

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USMISSION USUN NY

UNCLAS NOUAKCHOTT 2149

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PROP PBOR MR SS SP

SUBJECT: MAURITANIAN PRESIDENT PRESIDES OVER MEETING ON SPANISH
SAHARA

REF: NOUAKCHOTT 2123

1. GIRM EXPLANATORY CAMPAIGN ON SPANISH SAHARA WAS KICKED
OFF ON AFTERNOON OF OCTOBER 20 AT LARGE PUBLIC MEETING
PRESIDED OVER BY PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH. PRESIDENT RECALLED
THAT NATIONAL POLITICAL BUREAU OF PARTY RECENTLY DECIDED TO
DISCUSS SAHARA QUESTION AT MEETINGS THROUGHOUT COUNTRY.
OULD DADDAH REVIEWED MAURITANIAN POSITION ON SAHARA SINCE
1957, NOTING THAT GIRM CLAIMS ON SAHARA ARE NOT EXPANSIONIST
BUT CONCERN THE "UNIFICATION OF OUR NATIONAL TERRITORY".
PRESIDENT ADDED THAT "SAHARA IS INTEGRAL PART OF OUR NATION".

HE ALSO REITERATED THAT INTERNATIONAL COURT ADVISORY OPINION
RECOGNIZED MAURITANIAN RIGHTS ON SAHARA.

2. PRESIDENT POINTED OUT THAT SAHARA REMAINS UNDER
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PAGE 02 NOUAKC 02149 211643Z

COLONIAL DOMINATION. HE THEN REASONED: "THERE IS FORCE AND

THERE IS PERSUASION FOR MAKING OUR RIGHTS KNOWN. AND WE RECOGNIZE THAT FORCE IS NOT OUR BEST METHOD. THE WAY WE HAVE USED UP TO NOW AND WHICH REMAINS OURS IS THE DIPLOMATIC ROUTE, THE WAY OF APPEALING TO INTERNATIONAL OPINION.... OUR WAY, THE DIPLOMATIC WAY, IS DICTATED BOTH BY THE REALITY OF BEING A WEAK NATION AND BY INTERNATIONAL CONDITIONS WHICH INCREASINGLY CALL TODAY FOR THE PACIFIC SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES". OULD DADDAH CONCLUDED THAT THE "SAHARA IS OURS, AT LEAST PART OF IT, AND THAT THIS PART MUST REJOIN THE ALREADY INDEPENDENT PART IN A PEACEFUL WAY".

3. OCTOBER 21 EDITION OF PARTY PAPER CHAAB REPORTED THAT MAURITANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MOUKNASS LEFT NOUAKCHOTT YESTERDAY EVENING FOR NEW YORK WHERE HE WILL ATTEND SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY DIRECTOR FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN MINISTRY, MOHAMED OULDSIDI ALY. HANDYSIDE

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